



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/829,627	04/21/2004	Taku Ohi	10710/262 (PTG-1165 PAP)	7303
7590 05/04/2006			EXAMINER GEHMAN, BRYON P	
Robert Mallin Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione NBC Tower, Suite 3600 P.O. Box 10395 Chicago, IL 60610			ART UNIT 3728 PAPER NUMBER	
DATE MAILED: 05/04/2006				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/829,627

Applicant(s)

OHI, TAKU

Examiner

Bryon P. Gehman

Art Unit

3728

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 April 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-14 and 19-24 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 5-14 and 19-24 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 12-14 and 19-24 are finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In claim 12, line 5, and claim 22, line 2, "or" should be --and--.

In claim 19, lines 1-2, "wherein the...a second position," is double recitation and should be deleted, as such is already defined by the reference to claim 1 in line 4. In line 6, "said accessories" is indefinite, as no particular "accessories" have been positively defined nor related in combination with the defined structure so as to distinguish particular accessories being in the container. See also the subsequent reference in claim 23, line 3.

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-3 and 5-14 are finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hung (5,915,554). Disclosed is a container (21 and 25) comprising a top portion (21) pivotally connected to a base portion (25), each of the top portion and the

Art Unit: 3728

base portion having an interior (inwardly spaced from the peripheral area of the respective portion) and an exterior (the peripheral area of the respective portion), a holder (10) removably mounted to a selected portion of the container, said selected portion comprising the interior (spaced from the periphery of the top portion) of one of the top portion or the base portion, and further comprising sides that define a periphery (11, 11, 14, 14, 12 and 15), the holder having a storage area accessible from the interior of the container when the holder is inserted in a first position (see Figures 2, 3 and 5) and accessible from the exterior of the container when the holder is inserted in a second position (see Figures 5 and 6), and a passageway adapted to slidably receive the holder through one of the sides (the exterior side) of the selected portion.

As to claim 2, the container (21 and 25) comprises a toolbox.

As to claim 3, the holder is adapted to receive accessories.

As to claims 5, 7-8, 12 and 14, portions (280, 230, 28; apertures 19 and 90) may be characterized as a bracket to secure the holder therein.

As to claims 6, 9 and 11, disclosed are rails (110 or 140) mating with slots (230 and 280).

As to claim 10, the portion of the base portion receiving the shown handle may be characterized as an "extended portion".

As to claims 12 and 13, the holder (10) further includes a transparent door (15).

5. Claims 19-21 and 23-24 are finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hung. The structure of Hung has been explained above. Hung discloses

Art Unit: 3728

inserting the holder (10) in a position (Figure 3) so that contents of the holder will not be accessible from the exterior of the container. The reference to "theft" is merely intended use. A recitation of the intended use of the claimed invention must result in a structural or step difference between the claimed invention and the prior art in order to patentably distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art. If the prior art structure is capable of performing the intended use, then it meets the claim.

As to claims 20 and 21, a clasp (110) as a means for retaining is disclosed.

As to claims 23 and 24, see Figures 3 and 5 and the clasp (110).

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claim 22 is finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hung. To dispose the extension (110) on one of the portions as opposed to the holder would have been an obvious reversal of parts from the disclosure of Hung.

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-3, 5-14 and 19-24 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. See the detailed explanations above.

9. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bryon P. Gehman whose telephone number is (571) 272-4555. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Wednesday from 5:30am to 6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mickey Yu, can be reached on (571) 272-4562. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

Art Unit: 3728

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bryon P. Gehman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Bryon P. Gehman
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3728

BPG